The ſeverall Humble

PETITIONS

OF

D. BASTWICKE.
M. BURTON.
M. PRYNNE.

And of

NATH. VVICKINS,
Servant to the ſaid Mr. PRYNNE.

To the Honourable houſe of

PARLIAMENT.

Whereunto is added the humble Petitions of ſeverall Friends of the ſaid Mr. PRYNNE, and the acknowledgement preſcrib'd to be made by *Calvin Bruen*, and the reſt, in the Cathedrall Church of *Cheſter*, and Town-Hall thereof, for viſiting the ſaid Mr. *PRYNNE*.

Printed in the yeere, 1641.

The severall Humble

PETITIONS

OF

D. BASTWICKE.
M. BURTON.
M. PRYNNE.

And of

NATH. VVICKINS,
Servant to the said Mr. PRYNNE.

To the Honourable house of

PARLIAMENT.

Whereunto is added the humble Petitions of severall Friends of the said Mr. PRYNNE, and the acknowledgement prescrib'd to be made by *Cale in Bruen*, and the rest, in the Cathedrall Church of *Chester*, and Town-Hall thereof, for visiting the said Mr. PRYNNE.

Printed in the yeere, 1641.

TO THE HONOVRABLE,

The Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses of the Commons House of *Parliament*.

The humble Petition of William Prynne, *late exile, and close Prisoner in the* Ile of *Jersey*.

In all humblenesse sheweth,

THAT your Petitioner, though not conscientious to himselfe of any voluntary or apparant offence against the Lawes of the Realme (to which hee ever studied to conforme himselfe) through the malicious practices and persecutions of some *Prelates and Church-men*, (especially the now *Arch-Bishop of Canterbury*, and *Peter Heylin*, Doctor in Divinity) whose errors and Innovations, contrary to the Doctrine and Discipline of the Church of *England*, and extravagancies in the High Commission, and other Eccle-

Eccleſiaſticall Courts, your Petitioner for his owne reliefe, being there unjuſtly proſecuted (had to his weake power oppugned) hath within eight yeares laſt paſt, undergone two heavy Cenſures in the Starre-Chamber Court.

The firſt upon an Information there exhibited againſt your Petitioner, by M. *Noy*, deceaſed, then Attourney Generall, for ſome miſconſtrued paſſages, inoffenſive in themſelves, and in your Petitioners true intention, being for the moſt part the words of other approved Authors, compriſed in a Booke, ſtiled *Hiſtriomaſtix*, written by the Petitioner, againſt common Interludes, and licenſed for the preſſe by M. *Thomas Buckner*, houſhold Chaplaine to the then Arch-Biſhop of *Canterbury*, authorized by the State to licenſe Bookes, and by him exactly peruſed, and approved both in the written and printed Copy, before its publication, and ſo confeſſed in the Information; for which authorized Booke and paſſages, your Petitioner before the hearing of the cauſe, was not onely impriſoned in the Tower of London without Baile or Manupriſe, for a whole yeares ſpace, denyed acceſſe to his Councell, convenient time to examine witneſſes, and make Breviats to inſtruct his Counſell (the information being Generall, and reciting no particular Clauſes of the Booke excepted againſt) this exhibits, the onely meanes of his defence,

Illegally

Illegally ſuppreſſed: ſome of his Counſell Tampered with to make no juſtification, contrary to your Petitioners inſtructions, and deſire, whereby his cauſe was miſcarried: But alſo at the hearing, by reaſon of thoſe malicious and perverſe gloſſes on the ſaid paſſages, which the ſaid *Heylin* had collected and preſented to his Majeſties learned Counſell, who repeated his Inſtructions onely, your Petitioner was fined 3000 pounds to his Majeſty, expelled the Univerſitie of *Oxford*, and *Lincolnes Inne*, degraded from his profeſſion of the Law, wherein he never offended, Set in the pillory in the *Pallace-yard* at *Weſtminſter*, where he loſt one of his Eares And two dayes after on the pillory in *Cheapeſide*, where hee loſt the other eare, and had his ſaid Lycenſed Bookes there publikely burnt before his face, by the *Hang-man*, in a moſt diſgracefull manner; and adjudged after to remaine a priſoner during his life.

That after the ſaid cenſure to defame and injure your Petitioner the more, hee was charged wrongfully in the Decree, as cenſured for Perjury, (though not taxed for it by the Court) and betweene his ſuffrings in the Pillory, the Bookes of his Studie (twice ſurveyed, and reſtored to him by order from the Lords) before any (fine eſtreated) by a warrant out of the High Commiſſion, ſigned by the ſaid Archbiſhop & others, were ſeiſed on by *Croſſe* a meſſenger, who carried them to his houſe, with

which warrant your Petitioner charging the ſaid Arch-biſhop upon occaſion, in the open Court of Star-chamber; he there publikely diſavowed the ſame (though your Petitioner can yet produce it under his owne hand) promiſing withall, that the Bookes ſhould be reſtored forthwith; which notwithſtanding were all ſtill detained by his meanes, till they were extended and ſold for your Petitioners Fine: Who ſhortly after by an Order out of the ſaid Court, ſent to the Tower to be executed, was there ſhut up cloſe priſoner, and *Doctor Reeves* ſent thither to ſearch his Chamber for the Pamphlet, which the ſaid Arch-biſhop would wrongfully have Fathered upon your Petitioner, whoſe friends have beene unjuſtly proſecuted in the Exchequer, and elſewhere, ſundry yeares, for his Fine aforeſaid.

And your Petitioner further ſaith, that about *Eaſter* was three yeares, during his impriſonment in the Tower, by meanes of the ſaid Arch-biſhop, a new information was exhibited in the ſaid Court againſt your Petitioner, and others, with certaine Bookes thereto annexed; *Denying the Prelats Juriſdiction over other Miniſters, to be Jure divino. Charging them with many errours and Innovations in Religion, Uſurpation upon his Majeſties Prerogative, and Subjects liberty*, abuſes, and extortions, in the high Commiſſion, and other Eccleſiaſticall Courts, ſuppreſſing Preaching, *And painefull* Miniſters without a cauſe; Lycenſing *Popiſh, Arminian*, and other

 Errone-

Erroneous Bookes Against the Sabboth, setting up Altars, Images, and Crucifixes, Removing, and Rayling in Communion Tables, and Bowing down to them, Altering the Book of Common Prayer, the Bookes for the Gunpowder Treason, and late Fast in some *Materiall* passages, in favour of Popery and *Papists*. Which thing, (though very notorious, and oft complained against by this Honorable house, in former and late Parliaments) were yet reputed Scandalous. And though neither of the said Bookes was particularly charged on your Petitioner, in the said information, nor any witnesse produced to prove him either Authour, or disposer of any of them; yet by denying your Petitioner liberty to draw up his owne Answer, (though once a Barister at Law) when as his Assigned Counsell refused to doe it, by close imprisoning your Petitioner, and his Servant, by debarring him, Pen, Inke and Paper; whereby to Answer, or instruct his Counsell, searching his chamber, and taking away part of his Answer there found, denying him Accesse to his Counsell, and conference with his Codefendants, even at Counsell, though joyntly charged with him, Rejecting the Crosse Bill exhibited by him for his defence, threatning Master *Holt*, one of your Petitioners Assigned Counsell, sent by the then Lord Keeper to the Tower, to draw up your Petitioners Answer, and commanding him not to signe it, after it was engrossed: Where-

upon

upon he refuſed to ſubſcribe it, contrary to his promiſe to your Petitioner, add by refuſing to accept your Petitioners Anſwers to the ſaid Information, ſigned with his owne, and Maſter *Tomlins*, the other of his Counſells hands; though tendred by your Petitioner, both at the Star-chamber Office, and in the open Court at the hearing the ſaid Information, for default of Anſwer, (though two Anſwers were thereto tendred by your Petitioner) was taken *Pro confeſſo* againſt your Petitioner, and hee therupon *Fined five thouſand pounds to his Majeſty, Pillored, Stigmatized on both cheekes, Mutilated and diſmembred, in a moſt barbarous manner, and the ſmall remainder of his Eares, left after his firſt execution, cut off, to the hazard of his hearing, and life, Adjudged to perpetuall cloſe impriſonment in the Goule of* Carnarvan caſtle *in* North-wales, *a Naſty Dog hole, farre remote from your Petitioners Friends.* Which ſentence was unduely drawne up and executed upon your Petitioner, as his Attourneys Clearke informed him, before it was entred into the Booke, or your Petitioner could get any copie of it, to except againſt the ſame, as he had juſt cauſe.

That immediately after the Execution of the ſame ſentence, your Petitioner ſent to the ſaid Arch-biſhop to deſire him to releaſe, or Baile his ſervant (who was detained cloſe priſoner forten weekes ſpace in the meſſengers hands, and oft examined and ſolicited by faire promiſes, and threatnings cauſleſſely to accuſe your

Petitioner

Petitioner, againſt whom they wanted evidence) that ſo he might attend him during his ſoares, which the ſaid Archbiſhop out of his *Grace* and *Charity*, utterly refuſed: ſaying that he intended to proceed againſt his ſaid ſervant in the High Commiſſion, where he hath ever ſince vexed, cenſured, and banded him from Priſon to Priſon, onely for refuſing to accuſe and betray your Petitioner.

That after the ſaid heavy ſentence, your Petitioner by an order in the ſaid Court, (by way of addition to the ſaid Cenſure,) was inhibited the uſe of Pen, Inke, and Paper, and all Books; except the Bible, and the Booke of Common-Prayer, and ſome few Bookes for private Devotion, and before his wounds were perfectly cured, he was by order removed from the Tower to *Carnarvan*; and ſome of his friends in *Cheſter*, who viſited him there in his paſſage, in the preſence of his Conductors, who had no order to reſtraine any perſon from reſorting to him, were for this very cauſe ſent for by a Meſſenger, to appeare before the Lords of the Privie Councell, and likewiſe cited into the High Commiſſion at *York*, where they were impriſoned, and fined, to the ruine of their eſtates, enjoyned to make a publike Recantation in the Cathedrall Church, and in the Towne-Hall of *Cheſter*. The ſaid Commiſſioners further decreeing that three pictures of your petitioners found in *Cheſter*, ſhould be publikely burnt at the high Croſſe there, which was done accordingly.

That your Petitioner since his said sentence, hath been publikely reviled at, and libelled against, both by the high Commissioners at *York*, and in sundry Churches, both at *Chester*, and elsewhere, and in diverse licensed printed bookes, compiled by the said *Heylin*, and published by the Arch-bishops privity or command, and that sundry of his friends houses, studies, Books, and writings have been violently broken up, ransacked and taken away, and themselves prosecuted in the high Commission, out of malice, for the relation they had to your Petitioner.

That after your Petitioner had continued some ten weekes space close prisoner in *Carnarvan*, he was about three yeares since, by a warrant from the Lords of the Counsell, made in the summer vacation (to which the said Arch-Bishops hand was first subscrib'd) ordered by way of Exile, to be imbarqued and transported with all privacy into one of the Castles in the *Ile* of *Jersey*, and his conductors thereby charged not to admit any person whatsoever, but themselves onely, to speake with your Petioner in his passage: Whereupon after some injuries there received by M. *Griffith*, the King Attorney in those parts, (who endeavoured to seize upon the furniture of his chamber for his owne use) your Petitioner was imbarqued among Papists, in a bruised ship-wrackt vessell, full of leakes, and after fourteene weekes voyage in the Winter season, through dangerous stormes and seas, which spoyled most of his stuffe, and bedding,

and

and threatning often ſhip-wrack to him, he arrived at the ſaid Ile, and was conveyed cloſe priſoner into *Mount Orgueile Caſtle*, there where the Lieutenant Governour by another extrajudiciall Order, to which the ſaid Arch-Biſhops name was firſt ordered, to keepe your Petitioner cloſe priſoner in a chamber, ſuffer none but his keepers to ſpeake with him, to intercept all Letters to him; to permit him neither pen, Inke, nor paper, either to write to his friends for neceſſaries, or to petition for reliefe, and to permit him no Booke but the Bible, and thoſe aforenames Bookes, without giving any order for his dyet there, ſo that being deprived of his calling, and eſtate, exiled and ſhut up cloſe priſoner among ſtrangers, remote from all his friends, denyed all addreſſe to him by perſon or letters, he had certainly periſhed in his almoſt three yeares cloſe impriſonment there, had not the extraordinary providence and goodneſſe of God (which he ſhall ever adore) and the noble charitie of thoſe, under whoſe cuſtody he did remaine, furniſhed him with ſuch dyet and neceſſaries, as preſerved him both in health and life, in this his cloſe impriſonment and exile.

May it therefore pleaſe this Honourable Houſe, to take theſe your petitioners almoſt eight yeares tragicall grievances, of new and dangerous example, into your moſt ſad and juſt conſiderations, that ſo they may not be-

come presidents to the prejudice of posteriety; to grant him liberty to send for, and examine all necessary witnesses: to order all Clerks, Registers, and other Officers of the Star-Chamber, or elsewhere, speedily and freely to grant him the copies of such orders, decrees, and writings, as his cause shall require, to release him upon Bale, (being now but a prisoner onely upon an extrajudiciall order of the Lords, and not by Vertue of any sentence or decree in Court) To grant him liberty to plead and prosecute his owne cause, since counsell hath so often failed him, and to give him such satisfaction and relieſe as the Iustice and equitie of his cause shall merit.

And your Petitioner shall ever pray for your safeties,

WILLIAM PRINNE.

TO THE HONOVRABLE,

The Knights, Citizens, and Burgeſſes of the Commons Houſe of *Parliament*.

The humble Petition of Iohn Baſtwicke, Doctor in Phyſicke, lately retained cloſe Priſoner and exile, in the *Iland of Scilly*.

Moſt humbly ſheweth,

THat your Petitioner having about ſix yeares ſince ſet out a Booke in Latine, called *Elenchus Religionis Papiſticæ*, with an Addition thereunto called *Elagellum Pontificis, & Epiſcoporum Latialium*, being thereunto provoked by one *Richard Short*, a Papiſt that maintained the Popes ſupremacy, the Maſſe, and Papall Religion; In which Booke your Petitioner, (for preventing all misinterpretations, of his pious, and good intentions therein) in his Epiſtle to the Reader, fully declared himſelfe, that your Petitioner meant nothing againſt ſuch Biſhops, as acknowledged their Authority from Kings and Emperours; yet becauſe your Petitioner (the better ever to ſhow the Papall uſurpation of other Princes) therein, onely maintained by way of Argument (as other Orthodox writers of that Subject uſually have done) a paritie of the ſaid Biſhop of *Rome*,

or all other Bishops or Presbyters, by the word of God, denying his and their supremacy over other Ministers to be by the Divine institution.

Thereupon a Pursevant by Authoritie from the high Commission Court, came into your Petitioners house, at *Colchester* in *Essex*, in his absence; And the said Pursevant assisted with the then Bayliffes and Constables of *Colchester* aforesaid, Ransacked his said house, together with his Chests and Truncks, and with great violence broke open your Petitioners Study, which was in his Apothecaries house, and tooke and carried away divers of your Petitioners Bookes, Writings, Letters, and what else the Pursevant pleased, without making of restitution of them to your Petitioner.

And then your Petitioner was prosecuted in the said High Commission Court principally, for his said Booke, where after a long and charitable prosecution, he was the 12. of *February* 1634, fined 1000 li. to the King, excommunicated, debarred to practice Physicke, the chiefest meanes of his lively-hood, his said Booke ordered to be burnt; That he should pay cost of suit, and be imprisoned till he should make a Recantation; the which heavy censure was onely for the said Booke, wherein your Petitioner maintained the prerogative of a King against the Papacy. Whereas one *Thomas Chawney* of *Essex*, lately wrote a Booke in maintenance of the Papall Religion, and in defence of the

Church

Church of *Rome*, and averres it to be a true Church, the which Booke is dedicated to the *Archbiſhop* of *Canterbury*, and was and is patronized and defended by the ſaid *Archbiſhop*, and the ſaid *Chawney* never troubled for it. After which cenſure declared as aforeſaid; all the Biſhops that were then preſent denyed openly that they held their juriſdiction from his Majeſty, and affirmed, that they had it from God onely; and the *Archbiſhop* of *Canterbury* among many other Erroneous ſayings uttered by him; maintained the ſaid *Chawneys* Booke, and maintained that the Church of *Rome* was a true Church, and that it erred not in fundamentals: and he, and other the ſaid Biſhops, there defamed the holy Scriptures, and abuſed reverend Maſter *Calvin*. In regard whereof, and for the vindicating of your Petitioners innocency in the matters for which he was moſt unjuſtly cenſured, as aforeſaid, your Petitioner, publiſhed in Print another Booke in Latine Intituled, *Apologeticus ad Præſules Anglicanos*, expreſſing the truth of his proceedings and ſpeeches of his ſaid cenſure. For which laſt mentioned Booke, and his Booke called the *Lettany* (not then in Print) an information was exhibited againſt him and others in the Starre-chamber, to which your Petitioners anſwer being drawn and engroſſed, was onely ſubſcribed by himſelfe, becauſe he could get no counſell to ſet their hands to it; your Petitioner tendred the ſaid anſwer firſt at the Star-chamber Office,

and

and after in open Court at the Star-chamber Bar, but it would not be accepted for want of Counſellors hands to it, contrary to former Preſidents. But the Court of Star-chamber tooke the ſaid information *Pro confeſſo*, and cenſured *Your Petitioner* 5000 li. *fine to the King, to ſtand in the Pillory, and to looſe both his eares, and to be cloſe priſoner in* Lancaſter-caſtle in Cornewall: all which hath beene executed upon him with great extremity, to the perill of his life. After all which extremity, your Petitioner (by what order he knoweth it not, it being no part of his cenſure in Star-chamber) was tranported from the ſaid Caſtle, *To the Iland of Sylly*, a place ſo barren, that it affords not ordinary neceſſaries, where he hath beene in cloſe duration for three yeares or more, and not ſuffered to have any of his friends come at him, his (very Wife being prohibited by the Lords of the Counſels order) under paine of impriſonment, not to ſet her foot upon any part of the ſaid Iland, to enquire of his welfare. So that your Petitioner hath beene exiled from his wife and divers ſmall children 3. years and more, beſides the great ſtraights and miſeries which he hath ſuſtained, during the ſaid time. All which is contrary to the law of God and man, and the Liberties of a free Subject, and to the utter undoing of your Petitioner, his Wife and children.

May it therefore pleaſe this Honourable Aſſembly,

Aſſembly, to take theſe preſſing grievances of your Petitioner into your conſiderations, and to afford him ſuch reliefe therein, as in your grave Wiſedomes ſhall ſeeme conſonant to Iuſtice and equity, and to aſſigne him for Counſell, Maſter *Atkins*, Maſter *Ludlore*, Maſter *Tomlins*, Maſter *Gurdon*, and Maſter *Randall*, to aſſiſt him in this his complaint, and to order that your Petitioner may take out *Gratis*, ſuch copies of the ſaid Cenſures, VVarrants and Orders, and other the proceedings, in the ſaid ſeverall Courts as ſhall or may any way concerne this his ſad, yet moſt juſt complaint, with warrant from this Honorable houſe, to bring in his witneſſe.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound,

ſhall ever pray for your proſperities.

IOHN BASTVVICKE.

TO THE
HONORABLE THE
Knights, Citizens, and Burgeſſes,
of the Common houſe of
Parliament.

The Humble Petition of Henry Burton, *late exile, and cloſe Priſoner in Caſtle-Cornet, in the Ile of* Gannſey.

In all humbleneſſe ſheweth.

THat whereas your Petitioner, on the 5 of *Novem.* 1636, did preach two Sermons in his owne Pariſh Church, in S. *Mathew Friday-ſtreet London*, for the which hee was in *December* then next following, ſummoned to appeare before D. *Ducke*, one of the Commiſſioners for cauſes Eccleſiaſticall, at *Chiſwicke*, in the County of *Middleſex*; where (with the Regiſter of the High Commiſſion Court) the ſaid D. *Ducke* tendred to the Petitioner, the Oath *Ex Officio*, to anſwer to certaine Articles there preſented: which Oath the Petitioner refuſing to take, did then and there appeare from the ſaid Court, unto the Kings Majeſty: which appeale the ſaid D. *Ducke* did admit, and the ſaid Regiſter by D. *Ducks* direction, did then, and there enter in writing. Not-

Notwithstanding which said appeale, a speciall High Commission Court, was shortly after called at *London*, consisting of 4 or 5 Doctors, where the said Commissioners proceeded illegally, to suspend the Petitioner in his absence, by meanes whereof, as of the threatnings of the said Commissioners, he was inforced to keepe his house, until a Sergeant at Armes, with divers Pursevants, and other armed Officers, assisted by Alderman *Abell*, then Sheriffe of *London*, beset the Petitioners House, at 11 of the clocke at night, and violently broke open his dores, with Iron Crowes, and the like, and surprised him in his house, he making no resistance at all: where having first searched his study, & taking away such bookes as they pleased, they carried your Petitioner to prison, whence, the next day being the second of *Febr.* by a pretended order from the Lords of the Counsell, hee was conveyed to the Fleet, and there kept close prisoner.

During which imprisonment, an information was exhibited against the Petitioner, and others, in his Majesties Court of Star-Chamber, wherby he was charged (*inter alia*) with the publishing of a certaine Booke, containing, *an Apologie for an Appeale*, with his said two Sermons, intitul d, *God and the King*, wherein hee taught Subjects to yeeld all manner of due obedience to their lawfull King, and reproved all lawlesse Innovations in Religion, &c. Which Information, the petitioner upon his Oath un-

der the hand of *M. Hale* being then of his counsell, assigned by speciall order from the said Court, did put in his answer, wherein hee alledged such things onely, as his said Counsell conceived to be materiall, and pertinent for his just defence in publishing the said Booke, but denyed all other matters in the said Information contained, which said Answer, being admitted and receiv'd in Court, the Petitioner (being then a close prisoner) not onely attended the exhibiting of Interrogatories, according to the custome of that Court, but withall, after some universall delay, did write unto the Kings Attourney to hasten them: but before the examiner came, the petitioner heard that his said answer was referred to S. *John Brumston*, Knight Lord chiefe Justice of the Kings Bench: Sir *John Finee*, then chiefe Justice of the Common-pleas, and was by them wholy expunged as impertinent and Scandalous (save onely the not guilty) And the petitioner understanding the answer he was to make to the Interrogatories was to bereckned as a part of his answer, admitted in court, but afterwards expunged as impertinent & scandalous (as aforesaid:) so as if hee should there have answered the Interrogatories, he shold thereby have assented to the said act of the said Judges, and so the condemnation of his cause before the hearing, whereby he should have contracted his former Oath, that his said Answer was a true Answer, and so should justly have brought himselfe under the guilt of wilfull per-

jury,

jury, and his cause under just censure. For that very reason he held himselfe not bound, (as hee conceived) to answer the Interrogatories, for that his said answer was so expunged, and the (*Not Guilty*) as the foot to tyed to the head without the maine body (and that in the Iudges owne words) as the Petitioner could not in any sort take or acknowledge it now for other then the Iudges owne answer, as may appeare upon Record in the same Court.

Nevertheless, the Court taking the same information *Pro confesso*, and refusing to permit a copy of the Petitioners own true answer, as also of his reasons of not answering the Interrogatories, both which at his Censure he tendred to the Court, desiring they might be then & there publikely read the 14 of *June*, 13 *Caroli Regis*, proceeded to censure, whereby your Petitioner was Censured *in a Fine of* 5000*li to his Majesty, To be deprived of his Ecclesiasticall Benefice, degraded from his Ministeriall function & degrees in the Vniversity, & ordered to be set on the Pillory, where both his eares were to be cut off, confined to perpetual close imprisonment in* Lancaster *Castle, debarred the accesse of his wife or any other, to come to him, but onely his Keeper, and denyed the use of penne, inke, and paper.* All which (except the Fine) was executed accordingly. And after his close imprisonment for twelve weekes in the common Goale in the said Castle, he was (by what extrajudiciall order he knowes not) transported by the conduct of one *Brian Burton* appointed

by the High Sheriffe of *Lancaster*, (who used your Petitioner very basely and deceitfully, (in that his transportation) which was in the Winter season through dangerous seas; to the apparent hazzard both of his health and life) to the said Castle of *Garnsey*, where he hath remained a close prisoner and exile almost three whole yeares, his wife utterly prohibited upon paine of imprisonment to set her foot upon any part of the Iland, where she might but enquire how her husband did, contrary to the Lawes of God and the liberties of this Kingdome.

May it therefore please this Honorable House, to take the Petitioners sad cause into consideration, and for the better manifestation of his grievance in this cause, to assigne him for Counsell Master Serjeant *Atkins*, Master *Tomlins*, and Master *Gurdon*, to assist him in his cause, and to command that hee may take out such copies *Gratis* out of the said severall Courts as doe or may concerne his said cause.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound

shall daily pray for your prosperities.

HENRY BVRTON.

The humble Petition of *Nathaniel Wickings* ſervant to M. *Prinne*, and late priſoner in the *White-Lion* in Southwarke.

Moſt humbly ſheweth,

THat more then 3 yeares and a halfe ſince, your Petitioner, being ſervant to Maſter *William Prinne* then priſoner in the Tower, pending the laſt Information againſt his ſaid Maſter in the Star-chamber, was apprehended in the Tower by a Meſſenger, by a warrant from the *Archbiſhop of Canterbury* and other Lords, and by him determined cloſe priſoner by the ſpace of tenne weekes, that none could ſpeake with him but his Majeſties Attourney Generall, and his Majeſties then Solicitor, who examined him three ſeverall times, upon ſecrets of his ſaid Maſter, to extort ſome matter of accuſation againſt his ſaid Maſter by Dures.

That after tenne weekes end, your Petitioner was from that cloſe cuſtody by warrant from the Counſell Board delivered over into the hands of *John Ragge*, a Meſſenger attendant upon the *High Commiſſion Court*, to be by him delivered to the Keeper of the Gate-houſe: But

the

the ſaid *Ragge* carried your Petitioner home to his owne houſe, and there detained him two dayes and a night, till ſome of the *High Commiſſioners* had ſigned a warrant for your Petitioners commitment to the Counter in *Woodſtreet*, whereto he was carried by the ſaid *Ragge*, and charged with 26 ſhillings as his Fees due to him for the two dayes and nights he kept your Petitioner without order.

That your Petitioner was after called before the *High Commiſſioners* at *Lambeth*, & there tendred the oath *Ex officio*, to wit, to anſwer all ſuch Articles as ſhould be objected againſt him without ever being permitted, either to ſee or heare them, though he deſired the ſame. And for his refuſing the ſaid Oath, the Court declared him *pro Confeſſo*, and by their unanimous cenſure impoſed a Fine of 1000 lib. on him, good round coſts of ſuite, excommunicated and committed him backe to remaine *Sub fulva & actâ cuſtodiâ*, and not at any termes to walke abroad with his keeper, untill other order ſhould bee taken by the Court. One of the ſaid Articles, (to which hee could give no anſwer) running in theſe words.

Item, we object to you Nath. Wickins, that *you know or beleeve that the letter, which you carried to the* Printer, *to bee ſet the the firſt Letter upon the Booke, was a very compleate Letter, and ſo artificially cut, as that to looke on it the uſuall way, it ſeemed a compleat and perfect* C, *but*

turned

turned one side of it, and it appeared a Popes head, and they turned another way, and there appeared an Army of men or Souldiers. And we require you to declare by vertue of your Oath to your best knowledge and beliefe, who or what was meant by the Popes head in the said Letter or Seale; and who or what by the Army of men or Souldiers? And who by the C. And whether by the C. was meant the Lords Grace of Canterbury: and by the Popes head that his Grace was meant? And that by the Army of men or Souldiers was meant, that his Grace would be the cause of Warres in this Kingdome about Religion, or some other like meaning or device,) which is likewise recited in his Censure in like termes.

That your Petitioners Father was ordered to satisfie 22 pound 13 shillings 4 pence, for Fees due to the Messenger, who first seised him at 6 *sh.* 8 *d.* the day, for the 10 weeks he detained him Close Prisoner, when his Father had nothing to doe with him, he being another mans Servant.

That after your Petitioner had lyen almost two yeares in the Counter, he was by the High Commissioners ordered to be sent to *Wisbich* Castle in the Ile of *Ely*, there to remaine a close Prisoner, But by a Generall Warrant from the Archbishop and some other Lords, he was removed to the Gate-house, and thence after a short abode there, removed to the White Lyon in Southwarke, where he lay almost a yeare,

and was then from thence forced out by the disordered Rout that brake open that Prison; which tumult being appeased, he there voluntarily rendred himselfe againe, and thence by a Warrant from the Lord Chiefe Justice *Bramston*, he was transmitted to *Newgate*, where he lay above 23 weeks, and had lyen there longer, had not he by his Counsell moved his Majesties Judges of the Kings Bench for a *Habeas Corpus* to be bailed, upon which he was without any Warrant remanded to the *White Lyon* in stead of being Bailed; whereupon he moved the second time for a *Habeas Corpus*, on which when he was brought to the Barre, he could not be Bailed till after 4 Motions, and 2 Rules made in the Cause.

That your Petitioner during his said Imprisonments hath had his Chambers divers times searched, his Trunks and Boxes broken open; his licenced Books and lawfull papers taken away, and never yet could have them returned.

That your Petitioner, hath made severall humble addresses by petition to the Counsell Table, the High Commission Court, and Arch-Bishop for Reliefe in his inlargement, or support, with maintenance, but could not obtaine their Gracious Answers, especially the Arch-Bishop, in regard he had vowed (as his owne Houshold Servants reported) that your Petitioner should never be released as long as he breathed, without he would either submit to

confesse

confeſſe ſuch things as ſhould be required of him, as, what his Mr. did, and what he bade him to doe, or to take the Oath *Ex Officio*.

All which Illegall Impriſonments of purpoſe to inforce him to betray and accuſe his Innocent Mr. againſt the Lawes of God, and the Realme, he humbly ſubmits to the grave Conſideration of this Honourable Houſe, deſiring ſuch Recompence for his ſaid falſe Impriſonments and Injuries, as to your Wiſdomes ſhall ſeeme moſt meet.

And he as in duty bound

ſhall ever pray, &c.

NATHANAEL WICKINS.

TO THE HONOVRABLE,

The Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses of the Commons House of *Parliament.*

The humble Petition of Peter Iuice, of the City of *Chester*, Stationer.

Sheweth,

THAT your Petitioner (though every way conformable to the Lawsof this Realm, and Doctrine and Discipline of the Church of *England*, and of a peaceable disposition) about three yeares since, for visiting Mr. *Prynne* in his passage through *Chester* to the Castle of *Carnarvan*, by the consent of his Keeper, was by the meanes and direction of the Bishop of *Chester* Arrested by the Servant of *Roger Blanchard* Pursuivant for the High-Commissioners at *Yorke*, to appeare before them upon *Chester* Chaire Evening; who forced him to enter into Bond, with Sureties to appeare at the Court at *Bishops-Thorpe* on that day, which he did accordingly: And on the same day your Petitioners Wife was Arrested, and carried out of

of his Houſe by night, by a Warrant from the ſaid Commiſſioners to appeare at *Biſhop-Thorpe* the next day, being 80 miles from *Cheſter*, for which two Arreſts he was forced to pay ſixe pound to *Blanchard*.

That your Petitioner upon his Appearance was enforced to take an Oath to Anſwer ſundry originals, and three papers of Additionall Articles, to his great vexation and expence, being kept at *Yorke* in the ſaid Purſuivants houſe, for the ſpace of eight weeks, during which time, he was conſtrained to ſend down ſeverall Commiſſions for the Examination of his Wife, being unable to travell, and dangerouſly ſicke, by meanes of the fright ſhe took by the Purſuivants Arreſting her, and carrying her away in the night. Your Petitioners Houſe, Shop, and Study being three times ſearched in the meane time, by a Warrant from the Lords. And though nothing offenſive was then found, or proved againſt him, but onely his viſiting Mr. *Prynne* in his paſſage through *Cheſter*, and that with the leave of his Conductours, Yet your Petitioner was by the ſaid Commiſſioners fined 500 pound to his Majeſty, Impriſoned in the Purſuivants Houſe, to whom he payed 6. *ſh.* 8. *d.* a day, beſides his diet, untill ſuch time as he ſhould enter into Bond, with Sureties, to make ſuch a publique acknowledgement of his pretended offence, in viſiting Mr. *Prynne*, both in the Cathedrall, and Common Hall of *Cheſter*, as the ſaid

Com-

Commissioners should prescribe; your Petitioner being enforced to pay divers great and unwarrantable Fees, both to the Pursuivants, Registers, Proctors, and other Officers of the said Court, to the value of 50. pound at the least: And though nothing was proved against his Wife, yet they forced him to pay the Charges of the Court, and Costs of Suit for her.

That your Petitioner by reason of his said great Oppressions and Expences, and through the perswasion of the said Bishop of *Chester*, and his Chancellour, was most against his Judgement and Conscience, induced to make an unjust Acknowledgement in the said Cathedrall before a great Assembly, where the said Bishop being then present, and his Chapleyn Mr. *Thomas Cordell* preaching a Sermon for that purpose, wherein he bitterly inveighed against Mr. *Prynne* and his Fellow-sufferers, comparing them to *Corah*, *Dathan*, and *Abiram*. And because your Petitioner changed one word of the Acknowledgement, saying *ignorantly* for *wickedly*, he was injoyned by the Bishop the same day at Evening to make a new Acknowledgement in the said Church before another Great Assembly; and after that, to make the first Acknowledgement in the Common Hall of *Chester*, before the Major and Aldermen, and all comers in; And enforced him to pay foure pound to *Blanchard* for being present to see his Acknowledgement made.

After

After which your Petitioner was constrained to pay 30. pound to the Arch-Bishop of *Canterbury*, and Sugar-loaves to his Servant Mr. *Holford*, for Composition of the said Fine of 30. pound; so that by reason of all the premisses, your Petitioner hath expended at least the summe of 100. pound, and suffered damages to the value of 200. pound in his Trade and Reputation.

May it please this Honourable House to take these your Petitioners Grievances, together with the jurisdiction of the said High-Commission Court into your just and Honourable Considerations, and to afford your Petitioner such Reliefe for his losses and damages, as the Justice and Equitie of this Cause shall require.

And your Petitioner shall

ever pray, &c.

PETER JUICE.

TO

TO THE HONOVRABLE,

The Knights, Citizens, and Burgeſſes of the Commons Houſe of *Parliament*.

THE HVMBLE PETITION

Of PETER LEIGH of the City of *Cheſter*, *Grocer*, and *Richard Golborne* of *Cheſter* aforeſaid, Gentleman.

Sheweth,

THAT your Petitioner (though peaceable, and conformable to the Lawes of the Realme, and Doctrine, and Diſcipline, by Law eſtabliſhed in the Church of *England*) were about three yeares ſince (with *William Trafford* Deceaſed) Arreſted by *Roger Blanckhard*, chiefe Purſuivant for the High Commiſſion at *Yorke*, (for viſiting Mr. *William Prynne* in his Journey to *Carnarvan* Caſtle, which they conceived they might lawfully doe, being his friends, and there being no order to the contrary) who upon their ſaid Arreſt, tooke of each of your Petititioners, three pound a peece, for his fees, and ſeverall Bonds,

Bonds of your Petitioners, for the appearance at the ſaid High-Commiſſion at *Yorke*, within a ſhort time after; which they did accordingly, and were committed to the ſaid *Blanchards* cuſtody, until ſuch time as they entred into bonds, to ſtand to the order of the ſame Court: And upon your Petitioners appearance, divers Articles were exhibited againſt them, in the ſaid Court; and the viſiting of the ſaid *William Prynne*, they confeſſed, but denyed all miſcariages, or miſdemeanors, charged againſt them, and averred that they accompanied him onely in the preſence of his Keepers. And your Petitioners, and the ſaid Deceaſed, were to their great charge forced to attend at *Yorke*, one of them, above a Moneth, and the other 3 weekes after they had Anſwers to the ſame Articles, before Sentence; and at laſt they were conſtrained to pay great ſummes of money, for Fees, and coſts of Suit, on both ſides, Doctor *Matterſhed* the Kings Advocate, and the Proctors againſt them, receiving great ſummes of money of them, which with the Purſuivants Fees, amounted to aboue ſixty pound. And your Petitioner, *Peter Leigh*, was fined 200*l.* to the Kings Majeſtie: and your other Petitioner 300*l.* and the ſaid *William Trafford*, 150*l.* and for the ſame cauſe, and not any witneſſe examined againſt any of them, were enjoyned to make an acknowledgement, which before they would not doe, in regard the ſame was againſt

their consciences, and the Lawes of this Realme as they beleeved; They were forced to flee into other Countries, and leave their Wives, and Children, Trades, and Professions; And in their absence the Pursuivants of the said Court came to their Houses, with Warrants, or intimations, which they caused to be published in your Petitioners Parish Churches in *Chester* aforesaid, and did so affright their Wives, that they being with Child, did soone after miscarry.

And your Petitioners, and *William Trafford*, using all meanes for their freedome, could not prevaile, but their fines were Estreated, and their Bonds returned into the Exchequer as forfeited; whereupon at last, that they might have some accesse, and favour, to and with the Arch-bishop of *Canterbury*, who, as they were informed, had onely power to relieve them; They payd Doctor *Merricke*, one of the Advocates of the High-Commission Court at *Canterbury*, that they might have accesse to his Lordship, 35 ℔. at severall times: They presented his Lordship also with two Butts of the best Sacke, and gave one Mr. *Holford*, one of his Attendants 12 ℔. and other gratuities, to other of his Servants, to the value of 20 ℔. more. All which were bestowed on the said Arch-Bishop, and his Servants, by the Advice and direction of the said Doctor *Merrick*: and after the acceptance thereof, the said Archbishop

was

was content to take, and did take for his Petitioners and the ſaid *Trafford* fines 240 *l.* more which they payd accordingly, and were forced to pay 40 *l.* more for fees in *London*, & at *Yorke* concerning the ſaid buſineſſe, by which ſaid expence, troubles, and neglect of their owne Occaſions, your Petitioners for their parts, have beene damnified above 1000 *l.* and their eſtates almoſt thereby wholly ruined: They being enforced to flee and wander into ſtrange Countries for about foure moneths together: your Petitioner *Peter Leigh*, then being a Tradeſman, who dealt for above 4000 *l. per annum*, and then much indebted, had his Shop ſhut up, for above three moneths together, for feare of having his goods ſeized, for his forfeited Bond, and fine aforeſaid. And your Petitioner *Golborne* thereby was ſo ruined in his Eſtate, that hee for a long time after, with his Wife, and Children, lived upon the benevolence of his Friends, and now is conſtrained to live in Service, being diſabled for want of moneys to goe on in that courſe wherein formerly he was imployed.

May it therefore pleaſe this Honorable Aſſembly to take your Petitioners diſtreſſed eſtate into your grave Conſiderations, and to weigh their pretended Offences, and their ſevere and heavie puniſhments together, and to afford them ſuch Reliefe for the great wrongs done unto them, and their

Eſtates and Families by the Commiſſioners & Officers of the ſaid High Commiſſion who have ſo rent and torne them in their Eſtates, as aforeſaid; and by thoſe who are the Authours of their Grievances and Oppreſſions, who have made a prey of them, by taking ſuch Gratuities and ſummes of money of them, as aforeſaid, when they or ſome of them were the Incendiaries of their Troubles and Vexations, and the Authors and procurers of their ſo heavie puniſhments, as in your grave Wiſdomes ſhall ſeeme convenient; That ſo other his Majſties Subjects for the time future, may not bee ſo grievouſly oppreſſed at mans pleaſure.

And your Petitioners

ſhall pray, &c.

PETER LEIGH.

RICHARD GOLBORNE.

TO

TO THE HONOVRABLE,

The Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses of the Commons House of *Parliament*.

The humble Petition of Calvin Bruen of the City of *Chester*.

Sheweth,

THAT your Petitioner (though every way conformable to the Lawes of this Realm, & Doctrine, and Discipline of the Church of *England*, and of a peaceable dispoſition) about 3 yeares since, was Arested by *Robert Blanckhard* Pursuivant for the High-Commissioners at *Yorke*, who tooke of him for his Arest 3 pounds, and a bond for his appearance at *Yorke* the 28. of *September* 1637. (being the Faire time at *Chester*) on which day your Petitioner received a Copie of a Warrant from the Lords of his Majesties privie Counsell for his appearance before them with speede. The which copie your Petitioner shewed to the Arch-

Archbishop of *Yorke*, and others the said High-Commissioners there. Yet they the said High-Commissioners would not let him goe, till hee had taken the Oath *Ex Officio*, and paid Pursuivants Fees. And the same day in the evening one *Gouldsborrough*, a Messenger from the Lords came for your Petitioner *Bruen*, and made him pay him 10*s.* for Fees. And your Petitioner afterwards appearing before the Lords of the Counsell was charged with accompanying Mr. *William Prynne* at his being in *Chester*, in his passage to the Castle of *Carnarvan*. But upon his offer to his oath that hee enquired of his Keepers if they had any Command from the Lords to restraine any one from coming to see him, & that the Keepers made your Petitioner this Answer, *that there was no Command to the contrary*. And the Lords asking him if hee would take his Oath of that? he answered yes. Whereupon they were satisfied, and gave him as hee conceived, a discharge, and sent him away home. But immediately after your Petitioners returne home, he was againe summoned to appeare at the High Commission at *Yorke*, who appeared accordingly, and was againe sworne, and severall Articles exhibited against him for the aforesaid pretended offence; and for *extempore* Prayers, and Repetitions with Mr. *Pryn:* as also for procuring the Picture of the said Mr. *Prynne* to be drawne by a Limner in *Chester*.

All

All which laſt particulars, your Petitioner denyed, they being but falſe ſurmiſes, but confeſſed the viſiting of the ſaid Mr. *Prynne*, with the conſent of his Keepers, which your Petitioner thought he might lawfully doe, there being no Law or Order to the contrary. Yet for ſuch ſuppoſed offences onely without any Teſtimony or Witneſſes, your Petitioner was Fined 500 pound, and ordered to pay all coſts and charges to Protectors, Meſſengers, & Advocates, which came to 13 pound, or thereabouts for your Petitioner for one weeke only, which ſaid 13. pound your Petitioner *Bruen* paid accordingly: whereof one Dr. *Mocterſhed* had 5 pounds, being Advocate againſt him. And your Petitioner was enjoyned to make this ſubmiſſion hereunto annexed.

After which Sentence your Petitioner was committed to the Purſuivants, till hee put in Bond with two ſufficient Sureties of 520 pound to ſtand to the Order of the Court, and then went home. But ſhortly after, refuſing to make the acknowledgement aforeſaid, was againe by the ſaid Purſuivant Impriſoned untill he ſhould make the ſaid acknowledgement, which hee was much preſſed unto by the Biſhop & Chancellor of *Cheſter*, which ſaid Biſhop did aſſure him (as hee the ſaid Biſhop ſhould Anſwer before *God*) your Petitioner might ſafely doe it.

Your Petitioner being in Priſon, and having left his meanes of living, hee being kept from

his

his Trade eight moneths, and his Wife and Children thereby brought to great distresse, was forced by terrours and feares, and by the perswasion of the said Bishop and Chancellour, (on whose judgements your Petitioner much relyed) to procure his inlargement from Imprisonment, by making the said Acknowledgement in the Cathedrall Church of *Chester*, and the common Hall thereof, and was forced to pay to the aforesaid Pursuivant *Blanchard* (who came to see him doe it) 5 pounds for Fees.

After all which your Petitioner was forced twice more to goe to *Yorke*, being fourescore miles from his house, to take off his said Fine, if he could: But the Fine was certified into the Exchequer, and no helpe was to be had but by suite to the Archbishop of *Canterbury*, to whom the said Fines were granted: who after your Petitioner and his Wife suing to him by the space of a whole moneth together, accepted of thirty pounds for your Petitioner.

May it please this Honorable House to take this your Petitioners grievances into your grave Considerations, together with the jurisdiction of the Court of High Commission at *Yorke*, where your Petitioner) besides sundry others) hath suffered so much vexation and oppression, onely for visiting the said M. *Prynne*, to the dammage of 500. pound at least: And to consider whether this

this pretended offence be such, as by the Law the said Court hath power to meddle with. And to award your Petitioner such speedy recompence for his said wrongs against the said Commissioners and their Instruments, as to your grave Wisdome shall seeme meet and convenient.

And your Petitioner shall

ever pray, &c.

CALVIN BRUEN.

Here follows a Copie of the Declaration or acknowledgement appointed by his Majesties Commissioners for Causes Ecclesiasticall within the Dioceſſe and Province of *Yorke*, to be done and performed by *Calvin Bruen* of the City of *Chester*, in the Cathedrall Church of *Chester*, and Common Hall thereof.

HE is to be present in the Cathedrall Church of Chester aforesaid at Morning prayer, upon Sunday next comming, being the tenth of December instant, being in his accustomed apparell, where and when, immediately before the beginning of the Sermon, he shall stand upon some seate or stoole before the Pulpit, and say, and recite after the Minister, as followeth; Whereas I have been of late convented before his Majesties Commissioners, for causes Ecclesiasticall, for the Dioceſſe and Province of Yorke. For that I countenanced, comforted, and abetted one William Prynne, *heeretofore twice censured in his Majesties Court of Starre-chamber, for publishing seditious and scandalous bookes and libells. Namely, in that I waited upon him, to bring him into this Citie, and attended upon him at his going out of the Citie. By all which my carriage and misdemeanors, I have audaciously and wickedly (asmuch as in me lay) countenanced the said* Prynne,

Prynne, *and offered an affront to his Majeſtie and the State, in their juſt proceedings againſt him. And thereby alſo have brought a ſcandall and reproach upon the Citie; for all which my offences, upon my perſonall Avowers made to the Articles in that behalfe objected againſt me, I ſtand legally and juſtly convicted by his Majeſties ſaid Commiſsioners, and by them enjoyned to make this Declaration, and acknowledgement for the ſame.*

I doe heere in the preſence of GOD *and this Congregation, confeſſe my ſaid offences, and declare my hearty ſorrow for the ſame. And doe aske forgiveneſſe of* God, *the Church, the Kings Majeſtie, and the State. As alſo of the whole Government both Eccleſiaſticall and Temporall of this place: againſt all whom I have ſo grievouſly offended. And in token that this my confeſſion for the preſent is hearty, and that I may obtaine Grace hereafter to performe what I now promiſe, and finde mercy for what is paſt: I deſire you all to ſay with me the Lords Prayer,* Our Father, *&c.*

FINIS.

FINIS.

50671